FIFTY-NINTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY **WHA59.15**

Agenda item 19 **27 May 2006**

Collaboration within the United Nations system and with other intergovernmental organizations, including United Nations reform process

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

The Fifty-ninth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;[1]

Recalling the request in resolution WHA56.22 on the participation of global health partners in the further development of the strategic approach to international chemicals management for the completed strategic approach to be submitted to the Health Assembly for consideration;

Recalling the first principle of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, namely, that "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature";[2]

Recalling paragraph 23 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[3] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development on 4 September 2002, and paragraph 56 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 2005,[4] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to promote such a strategic approach;

Welcoming the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, consisting of the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management, the Overarching Policy Strategy and the Global Plan of Action, as adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 6 February 2006;

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[1] See Document A59/41.

[2] Document A/CONF.151/26 (Vol. I), Principle 1.

[3] Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August - 4 September 2002 (United Nations publications, Sales no. E.03.II.A1) chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] Resolution 60/1.

Noting the endorsement of the Strategic Approach by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its 9th Special Session, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 9 February 2006;

Welcoming the multisectoral nature of the Strategic Approach and the spirit of coordination and cooperation between the participating organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and the important role of UNEP in the development and implementation of the Strategic Approach;

Noting the active participation of the health sector, including WHO, in the development of the Strategic Approach, that comprises the priorities developed by the health sector, as noted by the Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly;[1]

Mindful of WHO's role in providing international leadership on the human-health aspects of the sound management of chemicals;

Mindful also of WHO's contribution to the sound management of chemicals through the International Programme on Chemical Safety, a cooperative venture between ILO, WHO and UNEP, and the established joint programme of cooperation between WHO and the ILO on workers' health;

Recognizing the need for health interests at country level to be addressed in the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management,

1. NOTES the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management as contained in the Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management, the Overarching Policy Strategy and the Global Plan of Action;[2]

2. URGES Member States:

(1) to take full account of the health aspects of chemical safety in national implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

(2) to participate in national, regional and international efforts to implement the Strategic Approach, including the International Conference on Chemicals Management;

(3) to nominate a national Strategic Approach focal point from the health sector, where appropriate, in order to maintain contact with WHO;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to facilitate implementation by the health-sector of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, focusing on human health-related elements;

(2) to provide support for implementation of the Strategic Approach by working with partners in the Inter-Organization Programme on the Sound Management of Chemicals and the

[1] Document WHA58/2005/REC/3, summary record of the eleventh meeting of Committee A.

[2] Document UNEP/GCSS.IX/6/Add.1.

International Programme on Chemical Safety, and with ILO on workers' health as related to the Strategic Approach;

(3) to inform, on behalf of the Health Assembly, the International Conference on Chemicals Management of progress in implementing its resolution.[1]

Ninth plenary meeting, 27 May 2006
A59/VR/9

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[1] Resolution 1, paragraph 3, in document UNEP/GCSS.IX/6/Add.1, Annex III.